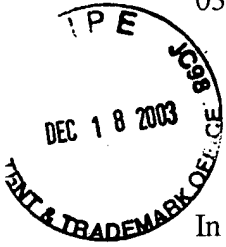


03500.017674

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Taro IKEDA, et al. ) Examiner: Unassigned  
Application No.: 10/687,813 ) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
Filed: October 20, 2003 )  
For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS ) December 18, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
Post Office Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the patent document listed on the enclosed citation Form PTO-1449. A copy of the listed patent document is also enclosed.

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following U.S. Application:

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>FILING DATE</u>	<u>GROUP ART UNIT</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>APPLICANT</u>
10/687,815	10/20/2003	Unassigned	Pending	Ikeda, et al.

For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the cited Application also is enclosed.

### STATEMENT/PETITION/FEE

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the application. Accordingly, Applicant submits that no Statement, Petition, or Fee is necessitated by the filing of this paper. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee necessitated by the filing of this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed for that purpose.

### REMARKS

Japanese Patent Document No. 2000-147900 is discussed at least at page 2, line 25 through page 3, line 5 of the specification.

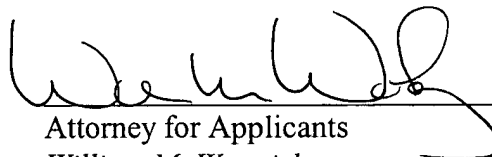
### CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Favorable consideration hereof is earnestly solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our New York office at the address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Wannisky', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Attorney for Applicants  
*William M. Wannisky*  
Registration No. 28,373

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Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

WMW\tas

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)  Submitted to the PTO: December 18, 2003			ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>03500.017674</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>10/687,813</b>	
			APPLICANT <b>Taro IKEDA, t al.</b>			
			FILING DATE <b>October 20, 2003</b>		GROUP <b>Unassigned</b>	

OIPE JC98  
 DEC 18 2003  
 TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		<b>2000-147900</b>	<b>05/26/00</b>	<b>Japan</b>			<b>Abstract</b>

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.